



URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF BUDE/STRATTON

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year 1970

Health Area Office,
Launceston,
Cornwall.

WILLIAM PATERSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF BUDE/STRATTON

Members of Housing & Public Health Committee : 1970/71

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T.J.McMAHON (Vice-Chairman)

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V.Townend
H.V.May

- - - - -

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY :

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

WILLIAM PATERSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

also holds appointments of : Medical Officer of Health :
Stratton Rural District Council
Launceston Rural District Council
Camelford Rural District Council
Launceston Borough Council

Health Area Medical Officer, Area No. 6 Cornwall County Council

School Medical Officer, Cornwall County Council

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR :

P.DURSTON, M.A.P.H.I.



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SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	4,294
Population	5,300
No. of separate dwellings occupied	2,223
Rateable Value	£228,834
Product of ld. rate	£908. 17.9.

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Rate per 1,000 estimated population</u>
<u>Live Births</u>				
Legitimate	46	18	28	9.6
Illegitimate	5	2	3	
<u>Stillbirths</u>	2	-	2	37.7 (Rate per 1,000 total births)
<u>Deaths (all causes)</u>	95	46	49	17.9

Deaths from Puerperal Causes :-

Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis	} N I L
Other Puerperal Causes	

Infant Mortality (Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births)

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	10	11	21
Measles (all ages)	-	-	-
Whooping Cough (all ages)	-	-	-
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	-	-	-

Health Area Office,
Launceston.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND COUNCILLORS OF THE URBAN
DISTRICT COUNCIL OF BUDE/STRATTON.

Mr. Chairman, Miss Francis and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the
Medical Officer of Health for the year 1970.

The vital statistics for the year show an increase in the number of deaths, 95 being recorded for the year as against 79 for the previous year. The number of births decreased from 67 in 1969 to 51 in 1970. This increased the adverse balance of deaths over births, and the Registrar-General's estimate of the mid-year population - 5300 - showed a decrease of 30 compared with the previous year. Heart disease, cancer and cerebrovascular disease, in that order, continued to head the list of causes of death. There were no infant deaths, but two stillbirths were recorded.

The incidence of notifiable infectious disease continued to be low.

Probably the most important matter affecting the environmental circumstances of the Urban District was the Council's decision to seek further professional advice on the sewerage and sewage disposal scheme for the town. The need to come to a decision on this subject is becoming more and more urgent, and of vital importance to the future of Bude, not only as a holiday resort, but also as a developing town hoping to attract suitable industry and an increased population.

I must express my thanks to Mr. Durston, the Council's Senior Public Health Inspector, for the valuable assistance he has given in all aspects of our work together, and in the preparation of this report, for which he has supplied the bulk of the information dealing with the sanitary circumstances of the District. The Council's other Departments have continued their willing co-operation. I am grateful to the General Practitioners of the District for their continued co-operation.

Once again, it is a pleasure to express my appreciation of the help and encouragement I have received from the Council, and, in particular, from the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

WILLIAM PATERSON

Medical Officer of Health

Natural and Social Conditions

Area (in acres) 4,294. The Urban District of Bude/Stratton is partly a health and seaside resort and partly agricultural in character. It is bounded on its western border by the Atlantic Ocean, the coast-line in this particular part of North Cornwall running almost due north and south.

Whilst the hinterland is undulating and hilly in character, contour heights seldom rise over 500 feet and this no doubt is in part the explanation for the exceedingly moderate rainfall figures (average annual rainfall for 20 years 33.74"), which in view of exposure to the prevailing south westerly winds, might be expected to be considerably higher.

Population - The Registrar General has estimated the population for the mid-year 1970 to be 5,300, a decrease of 30 on the previous year. In 1970 there were 51 births and 95 deaths, 44 more deaths than births.

Deaths - The total number of deaths assigned to the District for the year was 95, compared with 79 in 1969. The crude death rate based on the mid-year population was 17.9, compared with 14.8 in 1969. The following table has been compiled for comparison with previous years.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Recorded Rate</u>
1966	107	55	52	20.57
1967	87	46	41	16.70
1968	95	53	42	18.0
1969	79	31	48	14.8
1970	95	46	49	17.9

In order to compare the mortality in the District with the mortality for England and Wales, it is necessary to make a correction to allow for the difference in age and sex distribution of the two populations. This is done by applying to the crude death rate of the District an "Area Comparability Factor" which has been estimated by the Registrar General as 0.67 for this District.

The Standardised Death Rate, therefore, is 12.0 which may be compared with that of 11.7 (provisional) for England and Wales.

Births The number of live births assigned to this District was 51 compared with 67 in 1969. The rate per thousand of the population is 9.6. When the Registrar General's Area Comparability Factor for births (1.25) is applied to this figure, the Standardised Birth Rate of 12.0 for this District compares with 16.0 (provisional) for England and Wales.

Stillbirths - There were two stillbirths during 1970.

Illegitimate Births - There were five illegitimate births assigned to the District during the year, compared with four in 1969. Shown as a proportion of the total number of live births, this represents 10 per cent.

Maternal Mortality - No maternal deaths were recorded during the year.

Infant Mortality - There was no infant deaths in 1970.

N.B. Vital Statistics. It is important that too much weight should not be attached to small variations in these rates from one year to another, particularly where relatively small populations are involved - attention should rather be paid to the trend of these rates over a period of years.

MORTALITY TABLE

Classified in accordance with 65 headings based on the Abbreviated List of the International Statistical Classification of Diseases, Injuries and Causes of Death, 1967.

<u>Cause of Death</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	2	2	4
Malignant neoplasm, intestine	2	2	4
Malignant neoplasm, larynx	1	-	1
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	3	2	5
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	3	3
Leukaemia	-	1	1
Other malignant neoplasm	2	1	3
Diabetes Mellitus	1	1	2
Chronic rheumatic heart disease	1	1	2
Hypertensive disease	1	1	2
Ischaemic heart disease	15	11	26
Other forms of heart disease	2	5	7
Cerebrovascular disease	7	12	19
Other diseases of circulatory system	3	1	4
Pneumonia	2	2	4
Bronchitis and emphysema	1	2	3
Other diseases of digestive system	-	1	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	-	1
Symptoms and ill-defined conditions	1	1	2
Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	1	-	1
	46	49	95

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

General Medical Services

General medical services under Part IV of the National Health Service Act, 1946, are provided by medical practitioners resident in the district, and in adjoining districts, all of whom undertake maternity medical services.

County Council Services

I Health Department. The County Council is the local health authority for the purposes of Part III of the National Health Service Act, 1946, and provides the following services in the district :-

- (a) Midwifery and Home Nursing. Nurse-midwives are provided to attend general nursing and midwifery cases in the home.
- (b) Health Visiting. Health Visitors are available to give advice on health matters in the home or at the clinic. Originally concerned with the care of mothers and young children, which is still their basic function, they are increasingly concerned with other age groups, particularly the aged. Some health visitors combine this work with general nursing and midwifery. All act also as school nurses.
- (c) Dental Clinic. Priority dental treatment for expectant and nursing mothers and pre-school children is available at the Dental Clinic held at the Castle, Bude.
- (d) Vaccination and Immunisation. Facilities for vaccination against smallpox and immunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus, and for poliomyelitis vaccination are provided by the supply of materials to the family doctor, or at school, in the case of reinforcing doses.
Vaccination against measles is now provided for susceptible children up to the age of 15 years and a limited scheme of vaccination against German measles, for older girls of secondary school age, has been introduced.
- (e) Ambulance Service. A service of ambulances for the conveyance of sick, accident and emergency cases is provided. For sitting cases, utilising sitting case vehicles are used. When appropriate, some such cases are carried by the Hospital Car Service, a voluntary organisation. Day-to-day administration of the service is carried out from Ambulance Control, Bodmin.
- (f) Prevention of Illness, Care and After-care.
A full-time tuberculosis health visitor is provided for the care and after-care of tuberculous persons. District nurses are available to assist in the home treatment of such persons when required by the Chest Physician or family doctor.

Routine tuberculin testing and, if necessary, B.C.G. vaccination (i.e. vaccination against tuberculosis) is provided for senior school children.

Certain special investigations are carried out in other types of illness by district health visitors, while health education is carried out by the County's medical and nursing staff.

II Education Department. As local Education Authority, the County Council is responsible for the School Health Service, which provides the following :-

Periodic Medical Inspection of pupils
Cleanliness Surveys of pupils
Dental Inspection and treatment of pupils
Ascertainment of handicapped pupils in need of special education
Treatment clinic at the Castle, Bude:
Dental Clinics each Tuesday and Friday.
Child Guidance, by arrangement.

III Social Services Department.

The Local Authority Social Services Act, 1970, which resulted from the recommendations of the Committee on Local Authority and Allied Personal Services (the Seebohm Report), presented to Parliament in 1968, came into full operation on 1st April, 1971. This Act required the County Council to set up a Social Services Committee and appoint a Director of Social Services, who is now established at Old County Hall, Truro.

The new Department is responsible for the following :-

All duties formerly carried out by the Children's Department
All duties formerly carried out by the Mental Health and Welfare Section of the Health and Welfare Department.
Family casework with the physically and mentally disabled.
Day centres, clubs, adult training centres, workshops and residential accommodation for the above.
The day care of children under the age of five years, playgroups, etc. day nurseries and child minding.
The care of unsupported mothers, including residential care Home Help Service.

The new Department retains a link with the Health Department in that the County Medical Officer remains Medical Adviser to the County Council, including the Social Services Committee, and the Deputy County Medical Officer deals with day-to-day medical matters affecting the Social Services Department.

The Social Workers for the District work from the Health Area Office, Launceston. The Social Worker for Child Care works from Hendra, Dunheved Road, Launceston.

Hospital Services.

The South Western Regional Hospital Board is the hospital authority for the area.

Stratton Cottage Hospital provides in-patient and out-patient facilities in the district. Patients are referred also to hospitals in Plymouth and elsewhere. Cases of infectious disease are admitted to the Scott Hospital, Plymouth, and tuberculosis patients to Didworthy Hospital or Tehidy Chest Hospital. Mental hospital accommodation is provided by St. Lawrence's Hospital and Laninval House, Bodmin and Moorfields Hospital, Ivybridge, Devon.

An Orthopaedic Clinic is held weekly at Stratton Hospital, Bude, and a Physiotherapy Clinic at Dawfield Hospital, Holsworthy. The Chest Clinic is held at Stratton Hospital. An Ophthalmic Clinic for school and pre-school children is held periodically at the Castle, Bude. A Specialist Ante-natal Clinic is held in Launceston each week.

Laboratory Facilities.

These are provided by the Public Health Laboratories at Exeter and Plymouth, to which specimens for bacteriological examination are submitted.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

WATER SUPPLIES The District Water Undertaking is now under the control of the North Devon Water Board.

During the year, as a continuation of the Stibb Cross - Inch's Shop main, the Board laid a further length of 6" main from Inch's Shop to the hamlet of Bush, approximately 900 yards in length, to the junction of Stone Hill and the main A 39 road. Thence a length of 4" main was laid in a southerly direction along the A 39 towards Stratton to within 300 yards of Poughill Mill, and a further length in a northerly direction from the junction with Stone Hill to the top of Ivyleaf Hill, with a branch continuing up the new A 39 as far as the County Council Highway Depot, a total length of 4" main of approximately 1400 yards. Tappings for household connections had been made in some cases by the end of the year. As had been mentioned in previous reports, the only supply of wholesome drinking water to the houses in this area up to this time had been transported from Bude daily. On total completion this extension will provide a piped supply of water for the first time to some 63 properties.

The Board has continued the practice of stabilising the pressures in the low-lying parts of the District by the use of a pressure reducing valve at Hillhead, near the storage reservoir. This practice has obviated large fluctuations of pressure in the town of Bude, with a consequent reduction in wastage from ball-valves and similar fittings.

In general the District has experienced no major difficulties from shortage of supply, despite a drier than average summer. The supplementary supply coming into the District via the new Inch's Shop main has undoubtedly assisted in this connection.

Routine sampling for bacteriological examination is carried out by Officers of the North Devon Water Board, with occasional check samples by the Council's Public Health Inspector. The degree of purity of the water has remained of a high standard throughout the year. A summary of bacteriological reports is given below.

Summary of bacteriological reports

Tap water samples - (Filtered and chlorinated)

<u>Class 1</u>	<u>Class 2</u>	<u>Class 3</u>	<u>Class 4</u>
83	Nil	1	Nil

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The scheme for the improvement of the sewerage of Bude, and the construction of the new submarine pipe-line and sea outfall at Crocklets has, regrettably, made little progress in tangible form. The existing facilities are being subjected to increasing pressure due to continuing residential development within the District, a position which is further aggravated by the fact that the sewage of Stratton now discharges into the Bude System. However, as a preliminary, certain minor schemes are being planned for the separation of surface and storm water from existing combined sewers, by the laying of separate new storm water sewers. One such scheme in the King Street area of Bude has been completed, and an extension of such works to other areas will bring considerable alleviation of the present position, although it has not been possible to undertake any such extension during the year under review.

In view of the lack of progress in formulating concrete proposals upon the method of sewage disposal, the Council, during the year, asked for the advice of a further firm of Consultant Engineers. These Engineers had the benefit of all previous reports drawn up by the original consultants, and the marine engineers, and, although no detailed report had been submitted by them at the end of the year, appeared to favour a sea outfall. Whatever the final decision, it is to be hoped that it will be reached quickly, as the position is annually becoming more acute.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

The new Rodent Operator, who took over from the previous Operator on his retirement, has given very satisfactory service, and the District continues to enjoy considerable freedom from infestation.

During the year the new Operator conducted a test baiting of the sewerage systems, with particular emphasis on the sewers of the new estates which have developed in recent years. Very little infestation was found.

In addition to the treatment of the sewerage systems, all other Council properties have received surveys, and treatments where necessary, as have private and business premises.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960.

There are at present in the District the following licensed sites :-

- (a) A small holiday site for 4 caravans, and for tented accommodation at Bush
- (b) A holiday site for 30 caravans and 75 tents at Lynstone Farm
- (c) A residential site for 15 caravans at Maer Farm
- (d) A holiday site for 185 caravans, and for tented accommodation at Grenville Gate.

Of these sites, all but the first are provided with flush sanitation and main water supply. As the first is very small, and in a comparatively isolated area, the existing chemical closets were considered sufficient. All of the other sites now comply with the Ministry's Model Standards.

Taking the season as a whole the weather was very suitable for camping, and indeed for all holidaymakers. As a consequence camping sites were filled to capacity, and there was a marked increase in tented camping.

Speaking generally, the operators of licensed sites continue to exhibit great keenness to maintain high standards, both in the provision of facilities, and in the general standard of cleanliness and hygiene.

Collection of refuse is carried out on site by the site operators, much of the combustible refuse being burnt immediately. The remainder of the refuse is collected by the Council's refuse lorry at times of collection normal to the respective sites. An exception occurs at site (d), where the operator conveys his refuse, collected in paper sacks, to the refuse tip in his own vehicles.

During the season there was an increase in the amount of casual camping, but this was largely spasmodic, and no serious nuisances occurred.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The Cornwall County Council control most of the roads in the District, but the work of street cleansing is carried out mainly by the staff of the Urban District Council.

During the year the Public Health Committee studied the method of disposal and the extent of the existing facilities. As a result it was decided to incinerate the refuse on the tip, and bulldoze the incombustible residue into the remaining voids on the tip, and cover. This system appears to have worked very well during the period in which it has been in operation; and the rodent and fly infestation has been considerably reduced. In addition the tip is filling up very much more slowly.

Some difficulties have arisen, due to the implementation of the recommendations contained in the Organisation and Methods Study. This has restricted the number of personnel available for various duties in all departments, and has decreased considerably the manoeuvrability necessary for staff adjustments in the event of sickness or leave, since total staff under the recommendations covers only normal working. However, with the goodwill and co-operation of other departments, these difficulties have been up to a point, offset.

The collection vehicle in current use is a Dennis "Paxit" Series IIC refuse collection vehicle, of 24 cubic yards capacity, with intermittent compression loading.

The slightly larger overall dimensions of the vehicle have necessitated some slight adjustments to the collection rounds, where the reduced

manoeuvrability was a handicap, but householders have co-operated and a satisfactory compromise has been reached. On the credit side, the increased capacity of the vehicle, and its more efficient compression have reduced the journeys to the tipping area, on the average by one trip a day.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT

Section 47 - No action

Section 50 - No action

HOUSING

It is disappointing to have to report that the Council's housing programme has made no practical progress during the year. The number of applications submitted when any existing accommodation becomes available for letting indicates that there is still a considerable demand for this type of accommodation. In an area where the average weekly wage is very low, the Council are faced with the problem of providing accommodation of a type which is within the means of those who need it. Discussions have taken place on the advisability of adjusting the rents of existing properties, which are relatively low, to bolster the rents of any new houses which may be built. The Council has the approval of the Ministry to the building of a further 40 houses as an extension of the Berries Avenue development, and, in fact, eight of these have been started by the end of the year, but none completed. It is hoped that most of these 40 houses will be occupied by the end of 1971.

The slum problem is not a serious one numerically in the District, most unfit properties being dealt with individually when existing Council accommodation becomes available for re-housing the tenants. During the past few years, the position has also been eased by the improvement of many of the older houses either privately, or by means of standard grants, and undoubtedly the rate of improvement would increase if the Council were to consider applications for discretionary grants. The situation would be further helped if the Council were to provide a limited number of houses for rehousing tenants in unfit properties.

In programming the future housing requirements of the District, the Council has very much in mind, not only the requirements of the local inhabitants, but also the possible demands of personnel brought into the District with the development of light industry and a Government undertaking, a development which appears to be imminent, and has, in fact, already started to a limited degree.

Regrettably also, the amount of private development for owner occupation has shown a decline. This is, in part, due to the fact that existing estates are nearing complete development, and that building of private houses has occurred largely as in-filling within existing residential areas. The Council has in mind the provision of more land for private residential development, as an extension to the Hawthorne Avenue/Manor Road private development, but the negotiations for the land are protracted. It is to be hoped that this land will be acquired shortly, as it will provide a further 21 acres of attractive residential sites.

Comparative table of private housing development

	<u>1970</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>1968</u>	<u>1967</u>
Houses completed during the year	37	46	60	59
Houses being erected at end of year	34	30	35	31

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Food Premises and Clean Food

The number and types of premises in the District are :-

Grocers	...	...	...	...	...	12
Restaurants and hotel kitchens	...	...	...	...	...	45
Bakers and confectioners	...	...	...	...	...	5
Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	5
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	5
Ice-cream dealers...	...	...	...	...	...	25
Boarding houses	...	...	...	...	...	55
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	10
School canteens	...	...	...	...	...	3

No. of inspections of registered food premises 98

No. of inspections of other food premises 112

Food Hygiene Regulations

In a District where the most important industry, at the moment, is the holiday industry, the seasonal character of the demands upon the catering industry is its greatest problem. Largely almost at a standstill during the winter months, in the holiday season it is subjected to considerable pressures, which tend to build up as the season progresses. These pressures, together with the largely transient staffs which are available, create problems which, though not unique, are certainly not felt to any comparable extent in the centres of large population. Education in hygienic methods of food handling in lecture form, which could only take place in the off-season, has by then lost much of its interest for personnel who have found other employment, and perhaps may not return to the catering trade. In addition much imported labour is employed, and is likely to have left the District during the close season; this is particularly true of key personnel.

However, the Department does feel that prevention is better than cure, and inspections and advisory visits are an important part of the work of the year. Such visits have indicated that the larger the establishment the more vigilance is needed. This is, no doubt, in part explained by the relative remoteness of management staffs in such establishments. In spite of these difficulties, in general, good standards are maintained, and in other cases informal comment and advice have been generally acceptable to management staffs: no formal action has been necessary.

Milk

Brucella Abortus

By an arrangement with the County Medical Officer, samples of raw milk from producer-retailers in the area are taken by the County Public Health Inspector, and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Truro, for examination. Bulk samples are first subjected to the Milk Ring Test, and, if positive, samples from the individual cows in the herd are submitted for culture for brucella abortus.

The results given below refer only to samples from individual cows submitted for culture.

- | | |
|---|---|
| (i) Number of samples of raw milk examined | 8 |
| (ii) Number of positive samples found | 1 |
| (iii) Action taken in respect of positive samples | |

In this case, a notice under Regulation 20 of the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959, was served, prohibiting the sale of raw milk from the herd. Before the end of the year, information was received that the producer-retailer's licence had been cancelled.

Meat Inspection

The Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963, came into force on 1st October, 1963. These Regulations impose upon local authorities the duty of inspecting all meat slaughtered within their areas, previous legislation having been permissive in this respect. They also empower local authorities to charge the operators of slaughterhouses for inspection, in accordance with a limiting scale. Under the Regulations, inspectors are required, as far as possible, to be present at the time of slaughter, and to mark all meat passed as fit for human consumption with an identifying stamp. Inspectors are also required to carry out the inspection in accordance with a detailed schedule of examination, this having previously been left to the discretion and experience of the inspector.

The management staff of the sole private slaughter-house in the District have maintained, with few exceptions which have been dealt with promptly, the standards required by the Slaughterhouse (Hygiene) Regulations, the Meat Inspection Regulations, the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations and the Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations.

In the work of securing compliance with these various Regulations, the Public Health Inspector has been assisted, as in previous years, by the inspection and advisory visits of the Divisional Veterinary Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Meat inspection arrangements continue as for the previous year; that is to say between 70 and 80% of the work is carried out by Local Veterinary Officers in private practice, and the remainder by the Council's Public Health Inspector. This arrangement has proved adequate and satisfactory.

The number of animals has continued to show a downward trend, although the number of meat inspection units has actually shown an increase, due to the changing trade as will be seen from the table.

The problems continued to be those of restricted storage and inspection space, and when the Public Health Committee considered the Company's application for renewal of the slaughterhouse licence it was decided to limit the renewal to a three months period only, extension of this period being subject to certain specified works being carried out in the interim period. However, in the meantime a modern abattoir at Hatherleigh, some twenty miles distant, came on to the market. The parent Company put in a successful bid for this abattoir, and business was transferred to Hatherleigh, and the Bude slaughterhouse closed on 18th December. There is, therefore, no slaughterhouse in the Urban District at the time of writing. Since the Veterinary Officers had already given notice to the Council of their intention to terminate their contract for meat inspection at the end of the year, this closure avoided staffing problems which would have arisen^{due} to the necessity to cover meat inspection after their withdrawal.

A table of comparative meat inspection figures up to the time of closure, is given below.

	<u>1970</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>1968</u>	<u>1967</u>
Cattle other than cows	330	368	835	459
Cows	3,804	2,768	333	175
Calves	170	87	118	144
Sheep and lambs	5,068	5,771	26,209	35,964
Pigs	8,038	9,872	11,466	8,100
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	17,410	18,866	38,964	44,847
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Meat Inspection Units	76,100	72,799	98,880	103,010

Disposal of condemned meat and other foods

Condemned meat, both from the slaughterhouse and butchers' shops, is removed by a contractor, who sterilises and processes it, and converts it into animal feeding stuffs.

Tinned and similar goods are taken to the Council's refuse tip and buried.

Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1959

There are in the District 44 premises registered for the storage and sale of ice-cream. Of these 9 have not, during the year under review, sold the commodity, and one has closed down permanently.

In 1970, no premises were registered for the manufacture of ice-cream, all supplies being obtained from manufacturers operating outside the District. Of these, two are Cornish Companies, and the remainder the nationally known firms.

No valid reports on samples of ice-cream taken for submission to the methylene blue test are available for the season under review. The reason for the lack of reports is that the old sample container, which had done good service for considerably more than twenty years, had become unfit for service. A new container had been ordered at the beginning of the year, but due to production difficulties this did not become available until the season was over. Sampling was tried, using the old container, but results were so obviously unreliable that the attempt was abandoned.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Classified list of factories as at 31st December, 1970

<u>Nature of employment</u>	<u>Power</u>	<u>Non-power</u>
1. Food manufacture	3	-
2. Wearing apparel		
(a) Boots and shoes	3	-
(b) Outfitting	1	-
3. Carpentry, Joinery and saw mills	6	-
4. Garages repair shops and engineers	13	-
5. Laundries	-	-
6. Gas works	1	-
7. Monumental masons	-	1
8. Plumbers	-	2
9. Dairies	-	-
10. Photography	3	-
11. Printing works	2	-
12. Electrical engineers	2	1
13. Cabinet makers and upholsterers	-	2

Prescribed Particulars of the Factories Act, 1961, are attached as an appendix to this report in accordance with Circular 1/60 of the Ministry of Health.

Summary of Public Health Inspector's inspections, etc.

This is shown in Table IV, page 21

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The infectious diseases which are statutorily notifiable to the Medical Officer of Health are the following :- Cholera, plague, relapsing fever, typhus, smallpox, acute encephalitis, acute meningitis, acute poliomyelitis, anthrax, amoebic dysentery, bacillary dysentery, diphtheria, infective jaundice, leprosy, leptospirosis, malaria, measles, ophthalmia neonatorum, paratyphoid fever, typhoid fever, scarlet fever, tetanus, tuberculosis, whooping cough, yellow fever and food poisoning.

The monthly incidence of infectious disease is shown in Table III.

Smallpox. No case was notified during the year, in the course of which 239 vaccinations and 25 re-vaccinations were carried out in the whole of the County Council's Health Area No. 6.

Diphtheria. No case of diphtheria was notified during the year. 213 children in the Health Area received a complete course of immunisation during the year, the triple antigen against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus being used in all cases. 326 children received reinforcing injections, the diphtheria-tetanus vaccine being used in these cases.

Poliomyelitis. No case of this infection was notified during the year, in the course of which 234 persons in the Health Area received a complete course of oral vaccination, and a further 321 a reinforcing dose.

Whooping Cough. One case of whooping cough was notified in October.

Measles. Four cases of this infection were notified during the year.

Vaccination against this disease was continued during the year. 373 children between the ages of four and eleven years were vaccinated in the whole of the Health Area during the year.

Food Poisoning. No cases were notified during 1970.

<u>Tuberculosis</u>	<u>Males</u>		<u>Females</u>	
	<u>Pul.</u>	<u>Non-Pul.</u>	<u>Pul.</u>	<u>Non-Pul.</u>
Cases on Register				
31.12.69	7	2	2	-
No. of cases notified				
during the year	1	-	2	-
Cases restored	-	-	-	-
Inward Transfers	-	-	-	-
Cases removed	2	-	-	-
	<hr/>		<hr/>	
Total on Register	6	2	4	-
31.12.70	<hr/>		<hr/>	

B.C.G. Vaccination continues to be offered to all susceptible contacts of known cases, most of whom avail themselves of this protection.

The scheme for B.C.G. Vaccination of susceptible senior school children was continued by the County Council during the year, again with a good response.

OTHER DISEASES

Cancer of the Lung. During 1970, there were ten male and eleven female deaths from all forms of cancer. Three male and two female deaths were due to cancer of the lung. The total of deaths from this cause since 1949 is 40 male and 14 female deaths. During the same period, there have been 141 male and 154 female deaths from all forms of cancer.

Cancer of the Cervix. The County Council's Cervical Cytology Clinic at Launceston continued to operate during the year.

Women between the ages of 30 and 55 are accepted for this form of examination. The clinic at Launceston serves the whole of the Health Area, and beyond. During the year, 460 specimens were submitted to the laboratory. No cases of the pre-cancerous stage of the disease, nor of established cancer of the cervix, were discovered, but a number of minor conditions were identified. As a copy of the laboratory report is sent to the patient's general practitioner, he is made aware of those findings, and can arrange treatment, if required.

The Cervical Cytology Clinic at Stratton Hospital continued to operate during the year. This is independent of the County Council's arrangements, and the figures above refer only to the County Council's clinic.

TABLE I

TUBERCULOSIS

Age and Sex Distribution of Cases and Deaths - 1970.

<u>Age Groups</u>	<u>New Cases</u>				<u>Deaths</u>			
	<u>Pul.</u>		<u>Other</u>		<u>Pul.</u>		<u>Other</u>	
	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>
0 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Age unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

TABLE II

VITAL STATISTICS

Summary for Previous Years

<u>Year</u>	<u>Population</u>	<u>Births</u>		<u>Deaths</u>			
		<u>Number</u>	<u>Crude Rate</u>	<u>Under 1 year</u>		<u>All ages</u>	
				<u>Number</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Rate</u>
1966	5,200	71	13.65	2	28.169	107	20.57
1967	5,210	67	12.9	-	-	87	16.7
1968	5,280	63	11.9	1	16.0	95	18.0
1969	5,330	67	12.6	1	15	79	14.8
1970	5,300	51	9.6	-	-	95	17.9

TABLE III

Monthly Incidence of Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis)

	<u>Jan.</u>	<u>Feb.</u>	<u>Mar.</u>	<u>Apr.</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>July</u>	<u>Aug.</u>	<u>Sept.</u>	<u>Oct.</u>	<u>Nov.</u>	<u>Dec.</u>	<u>Total</u>
Measles	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	2	-	-	4
Whooping Cough-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	3	-	-	5

TABLE IV

Summary of Public Health Inspector's Inspections

<u>Description</u>	<u>Number of visits</u>	<u>Number of defects</u>	
		<u>Found</u>	<u>Remedied</u>
Drainage	37	15	15
Keeping of animals	46	8	8
Swill boiling	11	1	1
Public conveniences	54		
Refuse collection and disposal	134	21	21
Rodent and pest control	98	30	30
Infectious diseases	Nil		
Petroleum Acts	29	5	5
Complaints	12	10	9
House inspections	33	12	12
Local Authority housing inspections	53	9	9
Improvement Grants	150		
Rent Acts and Housing Act 1969. S.45	14		
Camp sites	66	10	10
Factories	24	3	3
Offices Shops and Railway Premises Act	65	12	12
Meat Inspection	229		
Foodshops	86	10	10
Bakehouses	7		
Food preparation premises	96	20	20
Ice-cream sampling	21		
Water supplies	10		

Total visits of all kinds made by the

Public Health Inspector during the year1,279

TABLE V

MEAT INSPECTION

Carcases and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle excl. cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	330	3,804	170	5,068	8,038
Number inspected	330	3,804	170	5,068	8,038
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis.</u> Whole carcasses condemned	1	19	10	55	22
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	49	1,563	2	150	291
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticercosis	15.15%	41.58%	7.05%	4.05%	3.89%
<u>Tuberculosis only</u> Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	11
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	0.14%
<u>Cysticercosis</u> Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	3	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	3	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Gross weight of meat condemned	38,966 lbs.				

APPENDIX

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the
Factories Act, 1961.

Part 1 of the Act

1 - INSPECTIONS for purposes of Provisions as to health
(including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	6	6	-	-
(ii) Factories not inclu- ded in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	33	17	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (exclu- ding out-workers' Premises)	1	1	-	-
Total	40	24	-	-

2 - Cases in which DEFECTS were found

	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (Section 1)	2	2	-	-	-
Overcrowding (Section 2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (Section 3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation (Section 4)	1	1	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (Section 6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (Section 7)	-	-	-	-	-
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	3	3	-	-	-

Part VIII of the Act

Outwork

(Sections 133 and 134)

N I L

